

Governor's Council on Blindness and Visual Impairment (GCBVI)
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2022

Attendees

Members Present

Bob Kresmer, Chair
Amy Porterfield
Ted Chittenden
Andrew Cohen

Members Absent

Bea Shapiro
David Steinmetz
Nathan Pullen

Staff Present

Lindsey Powers

Guests Present

Eddie Reveles - ASL

Minutes

Call to Order and Introductions

Bob Kresmer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm. Introductions were made and a quorum was present.

Approval of February 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Amy Porterfield moved to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2022 Executive Committee meeting. Ted Chittenden seconded the motion. The meeting minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

Officer Elections Discussion

Bob Kresmer stated the Full Council would be voting on the Officer positions at the next meeting. Mr. Kresmer noted that he had interest in continuing as the Chair, Amy Porterfield was interested in remaining as the Vice Chair, and David Steinmetz was interested in remaining as the Secretary. Bob Kresmer noted that David Steinmetz was often unable to attend the Full Council meetings due to a standing meeting at the same time, although he was still able to perform his duties as the Secretary. Bob Kresmer stated that the Executive Committee would bring the nominations to the Full Council, and the council members would vote on the Officers. Bob Kresmer inquired whether any Executive Committee members were interested in being considered for an Officer position. There were no additional nominations from the committee.

Ted Chittenden motioned that the Officer slate of candidates be Bob Kresmer as Chair, Amy Porterfield as Vice Chair, and David Steinmetz as Secretary. Ted Chittenden noted his concern that David Steinmetz was unable to schedule and Chair Public Information Committee meetings, although that would not hinder his ability to be the Secretary of the council. Bob Kresmer inquired whether any of the Executive Committee members were interested in being considered for the Secretary position. There were no additional nominations from the committee. The committee members voted on the motion by unanimous voice vote.

Agenda Items and Date for Next Meeting

The next meeting date of the Executive Committee would be determined.

Announcements

Bob Kresmer stated that Jonathan Pringle had suggested the council hold a Town Hall meeting to get input from the community and requested feedback from the committee. Mr. Kresmer noted that they had discussed the benefits of an in-person meeting vs. a virtual meeting. Amy Porterfield suggested using the RSA Video Conference Rooms to allow individuals to attend in-person or virtually. Ted Chittenden stated the council could also hold a Town Hall meeting at the upcoming VRATE in March. Amy Porterfield agreed that the council could hold a Town Hall at VRATE to provide information about the council and also request input from the community. Andrew Cohen stated that individuals from the DeafBlind community would likely attend VRATE, although he didn't know how many.

Ted Chittenden stated that in 2021, he assisted with the recount of Braille ballots, and he would be willing to discuss his experience at the next Full Council meeting.

Public Comment

A call to the public was made with no response forthcoming.

Adjournment of Meeting

Amy Porterfield motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ted Chittenden seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 pm.